

TOWN OF ARLINGTON

Joseph Connelly
Director of Recreation



PARK COMMISSIONERS
Leslie Mayer, Chairperson
Jen Rothenberg, Vice Chair
Shirley Canniff
Donald Vitters
Jim Robillard
Elena Bartholomew, Associate
Peter Hedlund, Associate

Recreation Department

Park and Recreation Commission
Minutes
Tuesday, July 14, 2015
Arlington Senior Center
Approved

The Park and Recreation Commission came to order at 7:00 PM for its meeting in the Arlington Senior Center on Tuesday, July 14, 2015.

Members in attendance included: Shirley Canniff, Leslie Mayer, Jen Rothenberg, Don Vitters, Associate Member Elena Bartholomew, and Associate Member Peter Hedlund. Director of Recreation, Joseph Connelly was also present.

Members from the public: Jotham Busfield

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from June 9, 2015 and June 23, 2015 were tabled. Mr. Connelly announced that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday, August 11th.

Open Forum – Public Comments

There were no comments.

Trevor Busfield – Bishop School Field Fundraiser Request

Mr. Connelly and Mr. Busfield reviewed the request for 8/29 use of Bishop. Mr. Busfield shared the 501c3 letter for the Nepal Relief fund with the Commission and answered questions about the event. Ms. Mayer motioned to approve with the condition of trash in and trash out, seconded by Ms. Canniff and approved 4-0.

AYBSL Buck Field Light Discussion

Representatives from AYBSL were unavailable and the discussion was tabled.

Recreation Summer Program Update

Mr. Connelly reviewed the 2015 summer programming with the Commission. Mr. Connelly highlighted the following areas: Reservoir Beach, Spray Pool, Club Rec, Kids Corner, Exploration, Chill Zone, Specialty Programs, Youth and Family Concerts, Doggie Rave and the Fall Brochure.

The Commission asked if Commissioner Jim Robillard could be honored in the next brochure. Mr. Connelly stated that was a great idea and will work on the write-up.

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Request to modify Thorndike Off Leash Area Weekend/Holiday Hours

The Commission reviewed the correspondence however this request was withdrawn prior to the meeting.

Special Requests

High Rock Church Picnic – Menotomy Rocks Park – 9/27/15

Ms. Mayer motioned to approve the event with a trash in and trash out policy, seconded by Mr. Vitters and approved 4-0.

Commission Topic Leader Discussion

Capital Improvements – Don Vitters

Mr. Vitters reviewed the topic leader discussions with Mr. Connelly and Mr. Hedlund. Mr. Vitters stated that Mr. Hedlund and he would be reviewing Mr. Connelly's notes regarding the field summit and adding to them to come up with a final summary of the summit that could be used for future planning purposes.

The Commission also discussed completing a feasibility study for the next round of capital projects.

The Commission discussed concern over the timing of the 2016 CPA process. The Commission stated that they would proceed with the Capital process as normal requesting the necessary funds from the Capital Budget for Robbins Farm.

Mr. Connelly and Mr. Vitters stated that the Magnolia Design was being put out to bid.

ADA and Playground – Mr. Connelly reviewed his site visits with ADA landscape architect specialist Tom McCarthy.

Special Event Fundraising – Ms. Rothenberg discussed the moving of the Beach Party Fundraiser to Town Day Night as well as moving in a different direction with the event. The event will be more special event fun based than a focus on fundraising, although the goal would still be to raise some funding for the parks.

Off Leash Park Program – Mr. Connelly announced the hiring of a new Animal Control Officer. The Commission discussed meeting this individual once they are officially in the position. The Commission also discussed the September hearing on Menotomy Rocks Park off leash hours.

DPW Liaison – Mr. Connelly suggested a meeting with the topic group and the new Natural Resources supervisor once the individual is officially announced.

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Other

The Commission asked Mr. Connelly to follow up with Chief Ryan and the Town Manager regarding the filming incident at Robbins Farm. The Commission discussed that if the activity was legal then an invoice for use of the field should be sent to RCN.

The Commission held a moment of silence for Park Commissioner Jim Robillard who recently passed away.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:13 pm

Respectfully Submitted:
Joseph Connelly, Director of Recreation

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